Remarks

Claims 1-19 are in the application. Claims 1, 8, 15, and 19 are in independent form. Claims 2, 5, 9, 18, and 19 have been cancelled. Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) for anticipation by Tarnanen (US Patent No. 6,085,100). Applicants respond as follows.

Tarnanen describes a digital mobile system and a method for routing a short message via a short message gateway application in a digital mobile system. With reference to Fig. 4, Tarnanen (reproduced below) describes a database record structure used to short messages to the original source address.

Routing table record Fig. 4

daddr	oaddr = scts	originating telematic service address

The database record structure is described beginning at col. 6, line 20 as follows:

> The first field "daddr" of the record comprises the destination address of the short message formed in the GA ("gateway application"), the address being the network address of the MS 1 ("mobile station") in the present embodiment. The second field "scts" of the record comprises the parameter used for identifying the short message, and in the present embodiment it is the time stamp of the short message service centre. The third field "omaddr" of the record comprises the original source address of the message that in the present embodiment is the address of the unit that transmitted the message from an external network to the GA.

Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate use of the database record structure in the operation of a gateway application (GA).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 5, which have been cancelled. Amended claim 1 recites a

particular text message structure that is not taught or suggested by Tarnanen. In particular, claim 1 recites that:

> "the short text messaging device of the recipient user being uniquely identified by a short text message address, a message destination tag being included with the originating short text message and identifying the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address, the message destination tag being located in a predefined location in the originating short text message."

Claim 1 recites a message destination tag that identifies the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address. Tarnanen recites just a "destination address" that appears to be simply a short text message address, and not a message destination tag as recited in the claim. Locating the message destination tag in a predefined location in the originating short text message allows it to be readily read and accessed by the messaging system while remaining compatible with prior message data arrangements.

As illustrated in Fig. 4 (reproduced above), Tarnanen describes a routing table record as stored in a routing database. Tarnanen does not teach or suggest a structure or arrangement relating to the transmitted text messages. Applicants submit, therefore, that claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentably distinct and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Independent claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 9, which has been rejected. Claim 8 recites:

> the short text messaging device of a recipient user being uniquely identified by a short text message address, a message destination tag being included with the originating short text message and identifying the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address.

Claim 8 recites a message destination tag that identifies the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address. Tarnanen recites just a "destination address" that appears to be simply a short text message address, and not a message destination tag as recited in the claim. Applicants submit,

therefore, that claim 8 and its dependent claims are patentably distinct and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 15 has been amended to include subject matter of claim 15, which has been cancelled, and to recite a short text message data structure of a short text message that is sent between an originating message device and a recipient message device, the data structure including:

> message text;
> a short text message thread identifier that identifies the thread of short text messages; and
> an identifier for at least one of an originating message user and a recipient message user,
> the identifier for the recipient message user including a destination tag and a separate short message address for a short text message device associated with the recipient user.

Claim 15 recites a message destination tag that identifies the recipient user with an indication other than the short text message address. Tarnanen recites just a "destination address" that appears to be simply a short text message address, and not a message destination tag as recited in the claim.

As illustrated in Fig. 4 (reproduced above), Tarnanen describes a routing table record as stored in a routing database, but Tarnanen does not teach or suggest a data structure relating to the transmitted text messages. Applicants submit, therefore, that claim 15 and its dependent claims are patentably distinct and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

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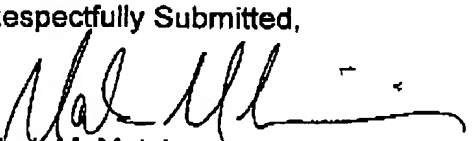
Respectfully Submitted,



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